

REMARKS

Applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner enter this Amendment After Final Action under 37 C.F.R. § 1.116 and reconsider the application as amended for allowance. Applicant respectfully submits that the above amendments place the claims in condition for allowance and/or in better condition for appeal. The following remarks are responsive to the Final Office Action mailed December 16, 2004.

Office Action Rejections Summary

Claims 1, 2, 4-8, 11, 13, 15-21, 25 and 27-30 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,438,711 of Woodruff ("Woodruff").

Claims 3 and 26 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Woodruff as applied to claim 2 above, and further in view of U.S. Publication No. 2002/0177453 of Chen ("Chen").

Claims 24 and 31 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Woodruff as applied to claim 2 above, and further in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,023,507 of Wookey ("Wookey").

Claims 9, 10, 22-23 have been objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Claims 12 and 14 have been allowed.

Status of Claims

Claims 3, 7, 9-14 and 22-27 are pending in the application. Claims 3, 7, 9, 11, 13, 22, 24 and 25 have been amended to be rewritten in independent format to include limitations of an original base claim and any intervening claim or to be dependent upon an allowable claim. The amended claims are supported by the specification. No claims

have been added. No new matter has been added. Claims 1-2, 4-6, 8, 15-21 and 28-31 have been canceled without prejudice.

Claims 12 and 14 have been allowed.

Claim Objections

Claims 9, 10, 22-23 have been objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

It is submitted that claim 9 has been rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of its base claim and intervening claims. Therefore, it is submitted that claim 9 is in condition for allowance.

Claim 12 has been allowed. Claim 13 has been amended to depend from allowable claim 12 and, therefore, it is submitted that claim 13 is in condition for allowance.

Claims 3, 7 and 10-11 depend from claim 9 and, therefore, it is submitted that claims 3, 7 and 10-11 are also in condition for allowance.

It is submitted that claim 22 has been rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of its base claim and intervening claims. Therefore, it is submitted that claim 22 is in condition for allowance.

Claims 23-27 depend from claim 22 and, therefore, it is submitted that 23-27 are also in condition for allowance.

In conclusion, applicant respectfully submits that in view of the amendments set forth herein, the applicable objections and rejections have been overcome.


If the Examiner believes a telephone interview would expedite the prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to contact Daniel Ovanezian at (408) 720-8300.

If there are any additional charges, please charge our Deposit Account No. 02-2666.

Respectfully submitted,

BLAKELY, SOKOLOFF, TAYLOR & ZAFMAN LLP

Dated: 1/5, 2005

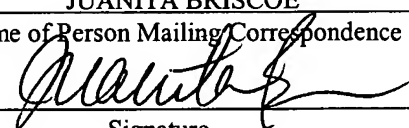

Daniel E. Ovanezian
Registration No. 41,236

12400 Wilshire Boulevard
Seventh Floor
Los Angeles, CA 90025-1026
(408) 720-8300

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